

CNN News Highlights — Halloween

1) a firsthand look	2) boils	3) ghouls	4) price bumps	5) shakeup	6) tariffs
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All right, listen up, _____ and _____ — Halloween is right around the corner. It is officially spooky season, but this year, prices on costumes and accessories could look downright scary themselves. Why? Because of the ongoing _____ — the taxes on international trade. Our Natasha Chen got _____ at how the _____ could cause a _____ for the spookiest day of the year.

1) afford	2) component	3) imposed on	4) paycheck	5) retailers	6) ridiculous
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For Halloween, Raina Hernandez's six-year-old wants to dress as Carl from The Walking Dead. "It's just _____. We cannot even _____ this at all." This hat would work as part of her son's costume, but it costs \$30 alone. "I'd rather just wait ahead of time, little by little, you know, _____ from _____." The Halloween and Costume Association says roughly 90% of Halloween products contain at least one _____ made overseas — most often in China. Because of tariffs _____ most Chinese imports, suppliers and _____ say this Halloween's products will cost a little more, and you'll see less variety.

1) lay off	2) on edge	3) overnight jump in costs	4) stoppage	5) upwards	6) whopping
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"We're all kind of _____, but we're trying to stay positive." Chris Zephro's business, Trick-or-Treat Studios, designs and produces all things scary and fun. But the real-life horror flick for him has been the _____ this year. In April, President Trump increased tariffs on most Chinese goods to a _____ 145%. Then in May, when tariffs on Chinese goods fell to 30%, some production in China resumed — but the _____ had already caused a delay or shortage of items for the season. All told, Zephro's tariff bill — _____ of almost \$800,000 — meant he had to _____ 15 employees.

1) absorb	2) majority	3) pass on	4) props	5) tough decision	6) trickle effect
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There's a _____. Importers like Trick-or-Treat Studios — who design and supply costumes, _____, and masks — are paying an extra 30% for everything coming in from China, which they then have to share with their retail customers, like Phantom Halloween, who then sells the products to consumers. Now, the owner here is also making a _____ about how much of the extra cost to _____ and how much to _____. "The _____ of kids' costumes have probably gone up \$3 to \$4. The _____ of adult costumes have probably gone up \$5 to \$8."

1) political	2) predominantly	3) price hike	4) reordered	5) textiles	6) the aftermath isn't pretty
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Ryan Goldman's family started Phantom Halloween stores in the 1980s. "The idea is to hold as many prices as we can." Some items made in Mexico, Vietnam, India, or the UK won't see a _____, but anything involving plastics or _____ is _____ made in China. "I'm not that _____, so we're just dealing with the aftermath of it — and _____." "If it's \$150 more for you, how much more is that for the customer?" "At least \$300. And that's the reason why he didn't get _____ this year."

Translation

注意聽，萬聖節快到了！雖然現在正式進入「鬼怪季節」，但今年的服裝與配件價格看起來也相當嚇人。為什麼？因為持續中的關稅——也就是國際貿易的稅金。我們的記者 **Natasha Chen** 實地了解了價格上漲如何影響這一年中最詭異的節日。

Raina Hernandez 六歲的兒子想打扮成《陰屍路》裡的 **Carl**。她說：「這太荒謬了，我們根本負擔不起！」這頂帽子本可以作為她兒子的服裝之一，但光是這頂帽子就要價 30 美元。「我寧可提前一點一點地準備，用每次薪水慢慢存。」萬聖節與服裝協會表示，大約九成的萬聖節商品至少有一個零件在海外生產，多數來自中國。由於對中國進口商品課徵關稅，供應商與零售商都表示，今年的萬聖節商品價格會稍微上升，種類也會減少。

「我們都有點緊張，但努力保持正向。」**Chris Zephro** 經營的 **Trick-or-Treat Studios** 專門設計並製作各種恐怖與趣味商品。但對他來說，今年現實中的「恐怖電影」就是成本的暴增。四月時，川普總統將多數中國商品的關稅提高至高達 145%。五月時，關稅降至 30%，部分中國工廠恢復生產，但停工已導致季節商品延遲與短缺。**Zephro** 的關稅帳單高達將近 80 萬美元，迫使他裁員 15 人。

這產生了連鎖效應。像 **Trick-or-Treat Studios** 這樣的進口商，負責設計與供應服裝、道具與面具，他們為來自中國的所有商品多付了 30% 的成本。這些費用又必須與零售商分攤，而零售商再將商品賣給消費者。現在，店主也必須決定要吸收多少額外成本，以及要轉嫁多少給顧客。「兒童服裝平均漲價 3 到 4 美元，成人服裝則漲了 5 到 8 美元。」

Ryan Goldman 一家人在 1980 年代創辦了 **Phantom Halloween** 連鎖店。「我們的目標是盡可能維持價格不變。」部分在墨西哥、越南、印度或英國製造的商品不會漲價，但凡涉及塑膠或紡織品的，大多在中國生產。「我不是那麼政治化，所以我們只能面對後果，而後果並不好看。」他說：「如果你多花 150 美元，那對顧客來說要多花多少？」對方回答：「至少 300 美元。這就是今年沒有再訂購的原因。」



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Answers

1) a firsthand look	2) boils	3) ghouls	4) price bumps	5) shakeup	6) tariffs
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All right, listen up, **2) boils** and **3) ghouls** — Halloween is right around the corner. It is officially spooky season, but this year, prices on costumes and accessories could look downright scary themselves. Why? Because of the ongoing **6) tariffs** — the taxes on international trade. Our Natasha Chen got **1) a firsthand look** at how the **4) price bumps** could cause a **5) shakeup** for the spookiest day of the year.

1) afford	2) component	3) imposed on	4) paycheck	5) retailers	6) ridiculous
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For Halloween, Raina Hernandez's six-year-old wants to dress as Carl from The Walking Dead. "It's just **6) ridiculous**. We cannot even **1) afford** this at all." This hat would work as part of her son's costume, but it costs \$30 alone. "I'd rather just wait ahead of time, little by little, you know, **4) paycheck** from **4) paycheck**." The Halloween and Costume Association says roughly 90% of Halloween products contain at least one **2) component** made overseas — most often in China. Because of tariffs **3) imposed on** most Chinese imports, suppliers and **5) retailers** say this Halloween's products will cost a little more, and you'll see less variety.

1) lay off	2) on edge	3) overnight jump in costs	4) stoppage	5) upwards	6) whopping
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"We're all kind of **2) on edge**, but we're trying to stay positive." Chris Zephro's business, Trick-or-Treat Studios, designs and produces all things scary and fun. But the real-life horror flick for him has been the **3) overnight jump in costs** this year. In April, President Trump increased tariffs on most Chinese goods to a **6) whopping** 145%. Then in May, when tariffs on Chinese goods fell to 30%, some production in China resumed — but the **4) stoppage** had already caused a delay or shortage of items for the season. All told, Zephro's tariff bill — **5) upwards** of almost \$800,000 — meant he had to **1) lay off** 15 employees.

1) absorb	2) majority	3) pass on	4) props	5) tough decision	6) trickle effect
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There's a **6) trickle effect**. Importers like Trick-or-Treat Studios — who design and supply costumes, **4) props**, and masks — are paying an extra 30% for everything coming in from China, which they then have to share with their retail customers, like Phantom Halloween, who then sells the products to consumers. Now, the owner here is also making a **5) tough decision** about how much of the extra cost to **1) absorb** and how much to **3) pass on**. "The **2) majority** of kids' costumes have probably gone up \$3 to \$4. The **2) majority** of adult costumes have probably gone up \$5 to \$8."

1) political	2) predominantly	3) price hike	4) reordered	5) textiles	6) the aftermath isn't pretty
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Ryan Goldman's family started Phantom Halloween stores in the 1980s. "The idea is to hold as many prices as we can." Some items made in Mexico, Vietnam, India, or the UK won't see a **3) price hike**, but anything involving plastics or **5) textiles** is **2) predominantly** made in China. "I'm not that **1) political**, so we're just dealing with the aftermath of it — and **6) the aftermath isn't pretty**." "If it's \$150 more for you, how much more is that for the customer?" "At least \$300. And that's the reason why he didn't get **4) reordered** this year."